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Chair, Scarborough Community Council
Chair, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo
Chair, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
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MEDIA RELEASE
Immediate release

City Council Approves Funding for Black Creek Pioneer Village

Toronto, ON – Today, City Council voted to increase the 2024 Operating Budget for the Toronto Region and Conservation Authority (TRCA) by \$200,000 to support programming at Black Creek Pioneer Village, a heritage museum and cultural attraction in the City of Toronto, and to work together in preparation for consistent funding support within the 2025 budget.

As Chair of the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, Councillor Paul Ainslie brought this matter forward, emphasizing the importance of Black Creek Pioneer Village as a cultural institution that showcases the history and diversity of Toronto and its communities. The funding will help stabilize the programming and operations, facing financial challenges due to the lack of dedicated operational support from any level of government.

“Black Creek Pioneer Village is a treasure for the City of Toronto and its residents. It is a place where people learn about the past, connect with the present, and imagine the future. By supporting this motion, the city is ensuring that this heritage attraction and museum can continue to offer educational and recreational opportunities for all ages and backgrounds,” said Councillor Ainslie.

The funding will be offset by a corresponding decrease in the 2024 Operating Budget for Corporate Accounts of the \$8 million in total contributions related to 2024 emergent budget priorities.

Black Creek Pioneer Village, opened in 1960 and boasting 50,000 artifacts and 40 heritage buildings, is managed by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority on behalf of the City of Toronto. It has a bold vision for community space with a museum at its heart. Hosting 140,000 visitors, Black Creek Pioneer Village is the only public institution of this size that does not have consistent operational funding from the government. Studies have shown that for every dollar invested in museums, it yields \$3.70 of financial activity.

For More Information:

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